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1964

1964
HANDBOOK

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
of
CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN
CHURCHES

176 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin

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1964
HANDBOOK

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
of
CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN
CHURCHES

176 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin

53203

A MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR

I welcome this opportunity for a word of greeting to the fellowship of Free Churches, within or without the National Association, and to all others to whom our activities and witness are a matter of interest.

The record herein is a continuation and broadening of the quiet growth of the several years. Now, at the conclusion of our ninth year, our roots are firmly planted and new opportunities appear faster than even our immediate resources permit us to accept.

This handbook will not only list new churches in new areas, but also some new associate memberships coming from other fellowships and increasing interest from abroad. The fortunate element of universality about the Congregational Way can open many doors.

An important feature of the last year's growth has been the increase in activity and effectiveness of our local and regional associations. The National Association offers them encouragement, but the initiative is theirs and the programs are their own. Neither "branch offices" nor tentacles of an over-shadowing national body, they embody the true tradition of Congregationalism.

We look forward with every confidence to our tenth year.

Ernest S. Crosby
Moderator.

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JUNE 1964

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Every effort possible has been made to have the information contained in the Handbook complete and accurate as of May 1, 1964. If errors or omissions do exist, please bring them to the attention of the National Association Office.

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MEMBER CHURCHES
of the National Association

Anchorage — **ALASKA**

First Congregational Church
Box 2002

Anaheim — **CALIFORNIA**

First Congregational Church
515 N. State College Blvd..... **Walter J. Vernon**

Corona del Mar
Plymouth Congregational Church
436 Heliotrope..... **Thomas B. Hoover**

Downey
Trinity Congregational Christian Church
11414 Buell St., Santa Fe Springs, Cal. .**Albert R. H. Miller**

Granada Hills
The Church of Our Saviour
P. O. Box 3187..... **James H. Kepler**

Huntington Park
Community Christian Church
3717 Hill Street..... **Le Vern Freeman**

Inglewood
Canterbury Community Church (Congregational)
Box 2266, Morningside Station..... **W. J. R. Quigley**
Charles L. Burgie (Assist.)

Lawndale
First Congregational Church
4521 W. 147th St.....**Wm. Rony Patterson**

In the listing of ministers the names which appear below the dotted lines are ministers who are members of the churches indicated but are not serving as staff members.

Long Beach

The Congregational Church

3212 E. Eighth St. ..... Vernon L. Booker

Los Angeles

Congregational Church of the Messiah

7300 W. Manchester. ..... Harry R. Butman

First Congregational Church

540 S. Commonwealth Ave. ..... James W. Fifield, Jr.

Eric H. Arendt

Royal G. Davis

Donald E. Pemberton

Donald F. Baker (Lic.)

Providence Congregational Church

1600 Morton Ave. ..... George E. Berryhill

Pasadena

Lake Avenue Congregational Church

393 N. Lake Ave. ..... Raymond C. Ortlund

Marvin L. Jacobs

Richard J. Anderson

.....

James H. Hutchins

Gleason Archer

Everett Harrison

Edward John Gornell

Pomona

Pilgrim Congregational Church

600 N. Garey Ave. ..... Raymond A. Waser

Douglas L. Lobb

Harry H. Graichen

Miss Lucy Ann Hass (D. R. E.)

San Jose

Pilgrim Congregational Church

1721 Dry Creek Rd. ..... W. Malcolm Gwaltney

.....

Wm. L. Friend

San Marino
Mayflower Congregational Church
1616 Chelsea Rd. ..... Ronald W. Dickson
..... John A. Shirley

Santa Maria
Pilgrim Congregational Church
P. O. Box 27 ..... Joseph Loughran

Santa Rosa
Pioneer Congregational Church
1255 Clover Dr. ..... Robert Greathouse

Soquel
Congregational Church of Soquel
P. O. Box 216 ..... Arthur W. Seebart

CONNECTICUT

Bozrah
Bozrah Center Congregational Church Inc.
R. D. 1, Fitchville ..... Harvey R. Lord
William Berriman, P.Em.

Canterbury
Westminster Congregational Church Leroy Victor Cleveland
..... Philip Jerome Cleveland

Colebrook
Colebrook Congregational Church
c/o Church Clerk, R.F.D. 1, Winsted .. Bruce H. Wood

East Haddam
First Church of Christ

Hartford
First Italian Congregational Church
277 Main St. ..... Natale Ricciardi

South Congregational Church
Main & Buckingham Sts. ..... Henry David Gray
John R. Elmore (Assoc.)
Robert D. Samuelson (Assist.)

Harwinton
Founders Congregational Church of Harwinton Inc.
Birge Park Rd., R. 3 ..... Joseph M. Cimbora, Jr.

North Westchester
Westchester Congregational Church ....A. Wallace Canney

Norwich
Greeneville Congregational Church
143 Prospect St..... Clayton E. Richard

United Congregational Church
87 Broadway ..... Myron R. Bunnell

Oakdale
Montville Center Congregational Church
c/o Mrs. Dorothy St. Marie, Clerk
R.F.D. 2

Stonington
First Church of Stonington George H. Strause

Stony Creek
Church of Christ Congregational

GEORGIA

Gaillard
Pleasant Hill Congregational Church
c/o Ch. Clerk, R.F.D., Roberta ..... H. E. Williams, Sr.

ILLINOIS

Albion
Olive Congregational Church

Pleasant Hill Congregational Church... Charles F. Marshal

Alton
Church of the Redeemer
540 E. 6th St..... Robert C. Kemper

Atkinson
Atkinson Congregational Church ..... Robert L. Frank (Presb.)

Cherry Valley
Christ's Congregational Church
A. Mill Rd., Rt. 1 ..... Laverne Mueller (Lic.)

Chicago

Fourth Congregational Church
2627 N. Talman Ave. . . . . Robert J. Hanna

Rosemoor Community Church
10359 S. Eberhart . . . . . Byron L. Reynolds

Stewart Ridge Community Church
120th Street ' Eggleston Ave. . . . . Harry J. Stubbs

Cobden

Union Congregational Church . . . . . Gerald M. Bethards

Dover

First Congregational Church . . . . . Howard Roy Clegg, Jr.

Galesburg

Central Congregational Church
Public Square

Glen Ellyn

Pilgrim Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn
c/o Mrs. F. M. Mattingly, Clerk
588 Lee Street

LaMoille

First Congregational Church . . . . . Howard Roy Clegg, Jr.

Maywood

First Congregational Church
400 N. Fifth Ave. . . . . Robert Vornholt

Mundelain

Mayflower Congregational Church
127 S. Midland Ave.

Newton

Fairview Congregational Christian Church
. . . . . B. Jenkins

Oneida

Ontario Congregational Church

Plainfield

Plainfield Congregational Church . . . . . Charles H. Lowder

Plainfield

Plymouth Congregational Church
604 Dillman Street ..... Stanley W. Sommerschield

Sims

Sims Congregational Church ..... Lewis G. Means

Thawville

Congregational Church in Thawville .. Arthur L. Upton

Wataga

First Congregational Church

INDIANA

Brazil

Bee Ridge Congregational Christian Church
..... Loren E. Page

Gary

Chapel of the Dunes (Congregational)
P. O. Box 2517..... Kenneth H. Ubbelohde

Lebanon

First Congregational Church .....Homer J. Hunsinger

Losantville

Mt. Zion Congregational Christian Church
c/o Church Clerk, R. 1

Michigan City

First Congregational Church
817 Washington St.....Leroy N. Fielding

Reelsville

Croys Creek Congregational Christian Church

South Bend

Community Congregational Church
19671 Cleveland Rd .....Lyndon Paul Harris

Terre Haute

First Congregational Church
630 Ohio St..... Louis B. Gerhardt
George E. Mitchell, P. Em.

West Terre Haute
South Vigo Congregational Christian Church
R. R. 1, Box 320 ..... Oscar V. Rector

Whiting
Plymouth Congregational Church
119th Street at Stanton Ave. ..... Clarence W. Hanscom

Burlington IOWA
First Congregational Church
313-315 N. 4th St. ..... John D. Rose

Cedar Rapids
Bethany Congregational Church
1300 - 6th St., N. W. ..... Mrs. Mary A. White

Fair Oaks Congregational Church
P. O. Box 1302 ..... Edward W. O'Neal (Bap.)

Clear Lake
First Congregational Church
201 N. 4th St. ..... Arthur H Krebs

Forest City
First Congregational Church

Marshalltown
First Congregational Church
P. O. Box 673, 312 W. Main St. ..... John H. Alexander
.....
Max Strang (Piedmont College, Demorest, Ga.)
LaMoille Congregational Community Church
Route 3 ..... Dwight J. Garrington

Mt. Pleasant
Mt. Pleasant Congregational Church

Riceville
Continuing Congregational Church
c/o Mrs. Reed Lockie, Sr.

Rockwell
First Congregational Church ..... H. A. Crawford

Rossie
Rossie Congregational Church ..... Martin N. Knudson

Sioux Rapids
First Congregational Church
304 Fourth St..... Vern R. Willey

Spencer
First Congregational Church
1212 First Ave., West ..... Gerald G. Hallauer
.....
James E. Parker

Hutchinson KANSAS
First Congregational Church
E. 11th at Walnut ..... Angus G. MacDonald
.....
Charles M. Good

Maize
Maize Congregational Church
P. O. Box 155..... Harold Wiley Freer

Wichita
Plymouth Congregational Church
202 N. Clifton Ave..... Walter G. Couch
W. A. Yount (Assoc.)
David L. Gray (Min. Ed.)

Bingham MAINE
First Congregational Church
Meadow Street ..... Lowell G. Kjenstad (Lic.)
.....
Arthur R. Macdougall

Bucksport
Elm Street Congregational Church .....Charles T. Brown

Calais
First Congregational Church ..... Donald Osborne

Denmark
Denmark Congregational Church
c/o Mrs. P. C. Schmidt, Clerk ..... Marvin L. Derby

East Machias
First Congregational Church..... Charles H. Hall

Eliot
First Congregational Church..... Ben E. J. New

Houlton
First Congregational Church
61 Military St. ..... Robert O. Blake

Machiasport
Machiasport Congregational Church ... C. H. Hall

Marshfield
Marshfield Congregational Church..... William R. Riddiough

Millinocket
First Congregational Church ..... Orville H. White

Portage
Portage Congregational Church

Portland
North Deering Congregational Church
16 Fobes St.....Robert Haldane, Sr.

St. Lawrence Congregational Church
76 Congress St. ..... Raymond L. Gillis

Searsport
First Congregational Church

Second Congregational Church

South Paris
First Congregational Church .....Kenneth V. Gray

Turner
Federated Church ..... Charles A. Watkins

Winthrop
Winthrop Congregational Church ..... William Hamil

Frostburg — MARYLAND

First Congregational Church
Bowery Street at College Avenue..... William E. Price (Lic.)

Adams — MASSACHUESETTS

First Congregational Church
40 Park St.....Henry G. Cooper

Boston

Park Street Congregational Church
Park and Tremont St. .....Harold J. Ockenga
Thomas Erickson (Assist.)
Harold O. J. Brown (Assist.)
Sherwood Strodel (Assist.)

Dorchester

Central Congregational Church of Dorchester
14 Center St., Milton ..... John R. Nelson
Norman G. King, P. Em.

East Taunton

First Congregational Church
945 Middleboro Ave. .....Albert D. C. McIlroy

Fall River

Bogle Street Congregational Church
Bogle St..... Charles C. Smith
George W. Brown, Jr. (M.C.E.)

First Congregational Church
21 June Street ..... Charles C. Smith
George W. Brown, Jr. (M.C.E.)

Florence

The Florence Congregational Church of
Northamption, Mass.
130 Pine St. ..... Seth W. Newton

Hanson

First Congregational Church
642 High St. ..... Robert H. Heigham

Holbrook
Winthrop Congregational Church
28 Linfield St. ..... Harvey L. Pierce

Middleboro
First Congregational Church at the Green
5 Plympton St. ..... Albert D. C. McIlroy

Nantucket
First Congregational Church
64 Center St. ..... Glen R. Schwarz

Rochester
First Congregational Church of Rochester
New Bedford Rd. ..... Arthur R. Lundberg

Springfield
Wachogue Community Church
80 Arvilla St. ..... Lorenzo S. Todd
Carlton D. Cassidy
(ordained lay minister)

Taunton
Trinitarian Congregational Church
52 Church Green ..... Charles A. Melano

West Medway
Second Congregational Church
546 Main St. ..... Kroum S. Jordan

Williamstown
White Oaks Congregational Church.... John C. Hatch

Windsor
The Congregational Church of Windsor
c/o Mr. Ralph Peck

Worcester
Hope Congregational Church
595 Southbridge St. ..... Edward F. White

Yarmouth Port
First Congregational Church of Yarmouth
Main St. ..... John A. Stevens

Adrian

Madison Congregational Church
2067 Richard Rd., Rt. 16 — Charles Serbey

Allegan

First Congregational Church
318 Cutler St. ..... Andrew B. Lemke

Ann Arbor

First Congregational Church
State and William Sts. ..... F. E. Luchs

Birmingham

Pilgrim Congregational Church
P. O. Box 122 ..... Howard E. Bull

Buckley

The Wayside Chapel
Rt. 1, Box 3 ..... Ohmer J. Curtiss

Carson City

First Congregational Church ..... Max Bailey

Central Lake

First Congregational Church ..... H. Don Schleicher

Detroit

First Congregational Church of Detroit
33 E. Forest at Woodward ..... Erwin A. Britton

Mount Hope Congregational Church
4366 Davison, West ..... Robert F. Simpson

Dundee

First Congregational Church ..... Paul C. Frederick

Eaton Rapids

First Congregational Church
300 Main St.

Eureka

Eureka Congregational Christian Church
P. O. Box 387 — Ray C. Middleton (E. U. B.)

Frankfort
First Congregational Church
Forest Ave. at Fifth ..... Arthur W. Tiffen
Catherine Whitford (Lic.) Assist
John C. Bockoven, P. Em.

Fruitport
First Congregational Church
c/o Mrs. Peter C. Keur, Box 208

Grand Rapids
Mayflower Congregational Church
2345 Robinson Rd., S. E..... Bruce H. Masselink

Highland
Highland Congregational Church
105 E. Ruggles St. ..... Marion E. Towne

Highland Park
Highland Park Congregational Church
89 W. Grand Ave..... Arvel M. Steece

Jackson
Arbor Grove Congregational Church
2621 McCain Rd..... Robert Haldane, Jr.

Lake Odessa
First Congregational Church ..... Paul W. Bennehoff

Lansing
Plymouth Congregational Church
213 W. Allegan St. ..... Jesse Pindell Peirce
Jack Fay Robinson (Assoc.)

Lathrup Village
Community Congregational Church
27800 Southfield Rd..... Philip Gentile

Mackinac Island
Little Stone Church,
Union Congregational — John W. Claxton, Summer Minister

Maple Rapids
Maple Rapids Congregational Church .. Donald Voss

Memphis
First Congregational Church ..... Foster C. Jones (Lic. U.B.)

Merrill
Congregational Christian Church ..... Ward K. Klopp

Orchard Lake
Pine Hill Congregational Church
P. O. Box 125 ..... Harry W. Clark
.....
Alfred D. Grey, P. Em.

Perry
The Congregational Church

Pittsford
First Congregational Church ..... Raymond T. Hallock

Pontiac
First Congregational Church
65 E. Huron St. ..... Malcolm K. Burton

Port Huron
Sturges Memorial Congregational Church
c/o Tom Waddell, Clerk
1625 Georgia Ave., Marysville

Pullman
Pullman Congregational Church

Rockford
Northland Congregational Church
7771 Northland Dr., N.E. ..... Harlo H. Ferris

Roscommon
First Congregational Church
109 S. Main St. ..... Jackson E. Turner

Royal Oak
First Congregational Church
P. O. Box 5..... Alan Jenkins

Saugatuck
First Congregational Church
349 St. Joseph St.

Somerset
Somerset Congregational Christian Church
Helen C. Hawkins, Clerk..... Leo H. Phillips

Southfield
North Congregational Church (Detroit)
26275 Northwestern Highway..... Ralph H. Read
Joseph G. Gregory (Assoc.)

St. Johns
First Congregational Church
100 Maple Blvd., P. O. Box 151..... Gerald Churchill

Suttons Bay
Suttons Bay Congregational Church

Vermontville
First Congregational Church..... Leonard H. Maunder

Vernon
Vernon Congregational Church ..... James Smith
.....
Glen R. Asplin

Wayne
First Congregational Church
35106 Main St. at Washington James Altman (Assoc.)

MINNESOTA

Bayport
People's Congregational Church..... Russel Waldron

Minneapolis
Plymouth Congregational Church
1900 Nicollet Ave. ..... Howard J. Conn
Alan D. Gordon
Elaine Marsh (M.R.E.)
Roger Herr (Dir. Youth Act.)

Kansas City — MISSOURI

Westminster Congregational Church
3600 Walnut St. ..... Norman J. Hansen

Neosho

First Congregational Church
Box 408 ..... Gary W. Smothers

Livingston — MONTANA

Livingston Congregational Church ..... Ellsworth D. Lyon

Melstone

Union Congregational Church of Melstone
Mrs. W. H. Herron, Clerk,
507 First St. ..... John C. Eichorn

Musselshell

Community Congregational Church .... John C. Eichorn

Roundup

First Congregational Church of Roundup
c/o Church Clerk, 906 Second St. .... John C. Eichorn

Ashland — NEBRASKA

First Congregational Church
Mrs. Harry Bricker, Clerk, Rt. 2 ..... Howard E. Lacey

Lincoln

Pilgrim Congregational Christian Church
503 Continental Bldg. — W. T. Keefe (Interim)

Alton — NEW HAMPSHIRE

Alton Congregational Church
Mrs. Shirley M. Wyman, Clerk ..... Roger A. Plummer

Center Barnstead

First Congregational Church
of N. Barnstead ..... David Poling
William J. McConaghy

Cornish
United Church of Cornish ..... Alvan Barrus, Lay Minister

Derry
Central Congregational Church
11 Crescent St. ..... William Willis

North Weare
North Weare Congregational
Federated Church ..... Earle Y. Fellows

South Merrimack
South Merrimack Congregational
Church ..... G. W. Snider

Troy
Trinitarian Congregational Church .... Arthur W. Childs

Wolfeboro
First Christian Congregational Church .. Edward W. Gantwell

Bound Brook — NEW JERSEY
The Congregational Church
Church and High Sts..... Olin A. Lewis

Egg Harbor City
Emmanuel Congregational Church
Liverpool Ave. and White Horse Pike .. Warren Allen

Brooklyn — NEW YORK
Cadman Memorial Church
350 Clinton Ave. ..... Richard P. Buchman

Flatbush-Tompkins Congregational Church
451 E. 18th St. ..... James E. Van Pelt
Alfred Grant Walton (P. Em.

Mapleton Park Congregational Church
1822-24 - 66th St..... Lester L. Dietrich

Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims
75 Hicks St..... Harry H. Kruener

Rugby Congregational Church
Snyder Ave. at E. 49th St..... A. Christian Johnson

Forest Hills
The Church-in-the-Gardens
Ascan Ave. and Greenway, N..... Alvin C. Brewer
Russell J. Clinchy, P. Em.
George C. Weekley (Meth)
Min. Rel. Ed.

Ozone Park
First Congregational Church of Woodhaven
97-15 - 94th Street ..... Harold Harris

Saugerties
First Congregational Christian Church
Main at First St..... Frederick J. Imhoff
.....
Donald B. Howard

Edmunds NORTH DAKOTA
Edmunds Congregational Church ..... Noah E. McCoy

Bowling Green OHIO
Plain Congregational Church
R. 1

Brookfield
Slope Congregational Christian Church
274 Wick-Campbell Rd., Hubbard .... Homer M. Hurst

Lenox
Lenox Congregational Church
c/o Clerk, R.F.D. 2, Jefferson Joseph Cooke

Mansfield
First Congregational Church
640 Millsboro Rd. ..... C. D. Schutjer

North Royalton
Faith Community Church
P. O. Box 8213 .....Ralph L. Hirtle

Toledo
Central Park Congregational Church
c/o Clarence McClure,
3314 Millicent Ave..... B. F. Ricker

Toledo Ohio

First Congregational Church
2315 Collingwood Blvd. ..... John Curry Walker
Roger A. Bell (Assoc.)

Mayfair Congregational Church
504 Mayfair Blvd. ..... Karl W. Ostberg

West Millgrove

West Millgrove Congregational Church . Fred H. Schott

Indiahoma — OKLAHOMA

Pilgrim Congregational Church ..... Kenneth Robinson

Oklahoma City

Mayflower Community Church
3901 N. W. 63rd St. ..... Norman Whitehouse

Pilgrim Congregational Church
829 N. W. 13th St. ..... C. Earl Page
.....
Leslie Barnette

Oregon City — OREGON

Atkinson Memorial Congregational Church
Sixth & John Adams Sts. ..... Horace L. Bachelder

Beaver Falls — PENNSYLVANIA

First Congregational Church
1024 Fourth Ave.

Duquesne

Bethlehem Congregational Church
121 S. Fifth St. ..... Sherwood C. Keiser

Edwardsville

Dr. Edwards Memorial Congregational Church
670 Main St., Edwardsville, Kingston . . Irvin C. Wise

Etna

First Congregational Church
22 Walnut St. ..... Martin Leiseder

Johnstown
First Congregational Church
236 Walnut St. ..... E. S. Emery

LeRaysville
Neath Welsh Congregational Church
c/o Mrs. Robert H. Dairs, Friendsville

McKeesport
Evangelical Congregational Church
322 Olive Ave. ..... John F. C. Green

First Congregational Church
Evans at Ravine St. ..... George W. Kemp

Minersville
First Congregational Church
321 Sunbury St. ..... Clyde R. Kauffman

New Castle
First Congregational Church
98 E. Reynolds St. ..... H. B. Rittenhouse

Pittsburgh
South Hills Congregational Church
3319 Brownsville Rd. .....Victor F. Patterson (interim

Plymouth
Pilgrim Congregational Church
Shawnee Ave. & Center St. ..... Herbert E. Anderson
.....
Paul Jones
Peter Lim

First Welsh Congregational Church .....James C. Hodgson

Sharon
United Congregational Church
786 Karen Lane ..... Charles W. Hanko

Siglerville
White Memorial Congregational Church
c/o Mr. A. Warren Stull,
Milroy, R. D. ..... George A. Wessling

Spring Creek
Spring Creek Congregational Church

Tarentum
First Congregational Church .....Edwin A. Meyers

West Spring Creek
West Spring Creek Congregational Church
c/o Mrs. Richard Mulligan, Treas.
R.D. 2, Corry, Pa.

Wilkes-Barre
Puritan Congregational Church
65 S. Sherman St..... James G. Evans

Second Welsh Congregational Church
Bazel & Parrish Sts. ..... Ernest G. Lewis

West Warwick RHODE ISLAND
Riverpoint Congregational Church
73 Providence St. .....Curtis C. Busby

Houston TEXAS
All Souls Congregational Church
2324 University Blvd.....C. Eugene Askew

Salt Lake City UTAH
First Congregational Church
402 E. First South St. ..... Frank M. Blish

Danby VERMONT
Danby Congregational Church ..... Glenn F. Bingham, Jr.

North Pownal
The Congregational Church ..... John C. Hatch

Seattle WASHINGTON
Seattle Congregational Church
6350 Greenlake Way N. ..... Robert Pruitt

Tacoma
First Congregational Church
209 S. "J" St..... L. W. Blackledge (Dir. of Youth

Adams
Trinity Congregational Church

Beloit
First Congregational Church
801 Bushnell St. ..... Stanley B. Crosland

Dalton
First Congregational Church

Friendship
Friendship Congregational Church
c/o Dorothy Galbraith, Clerk

Green Bay
Pilgrim Congregational Church
P. O. Box 881

Hayward
First Congregational Church ..... Fred Elwick

Kenosha
First Congregational Church
Library Park

Milwaukee
North Shore Church (Congregational)
7330 N. Santa Monica Blvd. ..... E. R. Burchell
C. W. Hoover (Assoc.)
Anne Pearse Smith (M. C. E.)

Pine River
Pine River Congregational Church..... Edmond R. Parker

Platteville
Lima Congregational Church ..... Lester Dunwiddie

Racine
Plymouth Congregational Church
316 - 12th Street ..... Donald R. Brownell
.....
Delbert D. Wilson, P.Em.

Randolph
First Congregational Church
c/o Mrs. Paul Phannenstill

Spring Green
Spring Green Congregational Church — Thomas Witzel

Wauwatosa
First Congregational Church
1511 Church St. ..... Norman S. Ream
Burkert Cree (Assoc.)
Harvey W. Cutting (Assoc.)
.....
Neil H. Swanson, Jr.

Big Piney — WYOMING
The Community Congregational Church
Mrs. Caroline Doerr, Church Clerk.... Daniel Johnson

Cheyenne
First Congregational Church
3501 Forest Dr. — Leslie G. Deinstadt
William Kramer (Assoc.)

Dayton
Dayton Congregational Church
c/o Mrs. Frank Wilson, Clerk ..... Edward W. Horst

ASSOCIATE MEMBER CHURCHES

Brooklyn — NEW YORK
All Souls Church of Brooklyn
Ocean & Ditmas Avenues ..... Cornelius Greenway

Christliche Gemeinde in Eckernforde — GERMANY
Grunerweg 2/ Tel 2281..... Christian Schreiber
Werner Breckenkamp

Taipei — TAIWAN
Mandarin Speaking Congregational Church
c/o Rev. Jordan Wen
P. O. Box 1341 .....Jordan Wen

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

176 West Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin

53203

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Executive Secretary
Rev. Neil Swanson, Jr. ..... Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Associate Executive Secretary - Missions
Rev. Robert H. Scanland ..... Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Associate Executive Secretary - Pastoral
Dr. John W. Claxton ..... Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Moderator
Mr. Ernest S. Crosby ..... Blue Hill, Maine

Assistant Moderator
Rev. Bruce H. Masselink ..... Grand Rapids, Mich.

Immediate Past Moderator
Rev. Harry R. Butman ..... Los Angeles, Calif.

Secretary
Mrs. Robert S. Reese ..... Los Angeles, Calif.

Treasurer
Mr. Richard G. Jacobus ..... Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Historian
Rev. Leonard H. Maunder ..... Vermontville, Mich.

Editor "The Congregationalist"
Rev. Henry David Gray ..... Hartford, Conn.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1964

Mr. William K. Stoufer ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
Chairman
Rev. Myron R. Bunnell ..... Norwich, Conn.
Rev. C .Earl Page ..... Oklahoma City, Okla.

1965

Rev. Erwin A. Britton ..... Wayne ,Mich.
Rev. George W. Brown, Jr. ..... Fall River, Mass.
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1966

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Each Commission includes a nucleus of members of the Executive Committee and a number of other persons, both lay and clergy, for a total of nine members. Commission members are appointed by the Executive Committee for three-year terms, so that one-third of the membership changes each year. The Executive Committee also designates the chairman of each Committee for a one-year term.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF CONGREGATIONALISM TODAY

THE SENSE OF "WE"

There are those who say, "Times have changed, and so must the Congregational fellowship."

We have refrained from entering a particular merger (there could be other mergers, you know, which we'd consider amenable to the Congregational Way). We are concerned with more than mere local autonomy, per se. We are quite convinced that there are values much deeper than that being challenged by the movement to merge our Congregational Churches.

The inner, spiritual liberty of man implies the social freedom needed for fulfillment. Merger into another form and order of Church life than congregational, however, reflects the converse: that social freedom implies the inner, spiritual liberty. In any form of Church life and work other than congregational, Commissions, Committees, Superintendents' or Bishops' Council, Agencies and Boards wield even more power, upsetting, by their very nature, any grass-roots sense of responsibility.

This isn't a matter of intention, but of actuality, as shown historically, and in contemporary situations in denominations all across the country other than those congregationally oriented.

In this period of the 20th century, as has been true before, the only aspect of man's organized communal experiences wherein grass-roots responsibility makes, or breaks, the chain of accomplishments is: his Church. Only in our Church life do we experientially know that what we do — or fail to do — counts.

In all the other forms of communal life the sense of "we" is entirely superseded by the sense of "they." Examine any area of life in which you, as a person, express any aspect of larger concern through member-

ship in a group and you find it so: school, lodge, labor union, civic, government, professional association. In such areas there is an increasing absence of the reflection of the sense of "We" instead of "They".

This is important not merely for reasons of prideful license or freedom from action. It's important because unless decisions are made through deliberative action rather than through administrative agencies and personnel, the deciding becomes increasingly scapegoated; that is to say, it becomes increasingly hard to persuade the ordinary person to shoulder the responsibilities of both concern and action which are his by virtue of his very existence.

If, in all other areas of community life, there is a waning of interest on the part of members, and a consequent necessary increase in the significance of delegated responsibilities, doesn't the Church which fosters the former become the more significant? Congregationalism fosters the former —the only area of group-life, for some, which still does.

Our hope, indeed, our faith, is that by providing this kind of experience for ourselves and our youth in Church life and work we shall be a constant challenge to persons to recapture, in other areas of group life, the same sense of "we" rather than "they." As such experiences lessen in our cultural and religious mileu, the need for relative challenge increases. That's the importance of Congregationalism today: the challenge to all those forces operative in the direction not only of delegating responsibilities but of actual abnegating them. (Abnegate: to deny or refuse; to give up.)

Temptations, forces, are all around us to say "they" instead of "we," to leave matters in the hands of executives, experts, who, having been elected to serve, soon direct in terms of what they deem to be in the best denominational interest. Soon, the exchange of grass-roots information — not ideas, but merely information — is

actually, though not intended, impeded entirely; soon, interest wanes on the part of "we," and at every level of Church life and work the voices of "they" become loudest.

This writer recalls participating in a group discussing some matter of Church life, and a person suddenly asked, "Well, what does the Conference really hope will be done?" I asked, then, a disturbing (it turned out) question: "Ted, honestly now, not argumentatively, I ask, when you say that question, what does 'The Conference' mean? Do you mean the Conference Superintendent, the Board of Directors, or the Churches?" I never found out, from him, what he meant. The temptation, and the evidence of history, is in the direction of meaning less and less "we" and more and more "they."

Soon, the information which others, not we, have is set forth as being the readiest, the most reliable, the truest and, even, the Will of God. Soon we, you and I, admit that we are not really in a position to even think. Forces in this direction are constantly at work around us. Congregationalism represents a continuing challenge.

I recall a "Peanuts" comic strip in which, in the first picture, a boy says to another, "Being engaged to Marcia is breaking Ira's spirit." The other boy replies, "Yes; he's lost his personal freedom and initiative, and if he doesn't watch it, it'll get worse." Ira and Marcia overhear, and Ira turns to her and says. "You know, Marcia, I th-th-think they're right." Marcia scowls darkly and says, "How dare you think?"

Congregationalism today represents that one way in which we, as persons, carry out our convictions that God is alone our Teacher and Master, and is so for each of us and for no one more than another in the ordinary course of human events.

We dare not, in Church life and work as we already have in other ways, delegate, abnegate our own personal

relationship to challenges. needs or knowledge. We must provide that form and order of Church life and work which fosters the knowledge that we are each able to discover God's Way and ways. The Congregational Way exhorts us to do so — to keep alive our personal relationship to Him to the extent that wherever two or three are gathered together to ask anything in His Name, there He is also.

This is the importance of Congregationalism for today: "we" not "they."

I find great meaning in the articulation of this importance in the following: "A Commencement Creed, For All Ages."

"I do not choose to be a common person. It is my inalienable right to be uncommon, if I can. I seek opportunity, not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having others look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream, to build, to fail and succeed. I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence, the thrill of fulfillment to the calm of a Utopia. I will not trade freedom for beneficence.

"God is my Father and, alone, my Master; therefore, I will never cower before any threat. It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid, to think and act for myself, to face the world boldly. It is my heritage to know, by myself, that both in the beginning, and at the end, was, is, and always shall be . . . God!"

Our importance today is as it has always been: to be seeking, critical minds, rather than accepting, conforming ones.

Rev. Robert H. Vornholt
First Congregational Church
Maywood, Illinois

OUR NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

In the year 1705 the most famous New England ministers led by Cotton Mather proposed that Christianity could only be invigorated by limiting Congregational freedoms. Ministerial Associations should approve or disapprove candidates for vacant pulpits. Standing councils should be established to manage ecclesiastical affairs and excommunicate any local Church which refused to accept the collective decision. These plans originated in the most highly-respected places - Harvard College, Old South Church, and the Mather homestead; their sponsors were of unquestioned piety and obvious dignity. Yet a single preacher named John Wise of Ipswich laughed the scheme to ruin in his satirical pamphlet called "THE CHURCHES QUARREL ESPOUSED."

When a mere hundred Churches assembled during cold, wet November days in 1955 to found the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches at a Detroit hotel because no Church in the city would welcome such mavericks, the spirit of John Wise hovered over the delegates. In their own way they were writing a new CHURCHES QUARREL ESPOUSED; for a different century they dared to defy the power, prestige and persuasiveness of the Cotton Mathers. The National Association would ring out the liberty bell long, loudly and clearly across our nation under God.

Our foes were all too obvious in those early days and friends far from certain. Ministers who dared to meet at Hotel Fort Shelby faced the fury of almost every paid Congregational official from Portland, Maine to Portland, Oregon. Delegates read a denunciation of their conference written with liquid fire by an editor of the most popular interdenominational weekly journal. As for the official Congregational magazine, its remarks reminded one of a Spanish Catholic bishop of the 16th

century who discovered his altar boy reading a Lutheran tract. Some of the most noted friends of continuing Congregationalism quickly left the fray for safer quarters. The entire machinery of the bureaucracy moved ahead resolutely, relentlessly and ruthlessly.

Let no one imagine that storm clouds have disappeared and the sun has banished the driving rain. It may take a century to win the case for local self-governing Churches cooperating voluntarily and another hundred years to demonstrate that honest respect for denominational variety is the only path to lasting religious unity. To take a parallel from American history in its golden age, we have just completed the skirmish at Lexington-Concord bridge and repulsed the assault on Bunker Hill; Valley Forge could be ahead and Yorktown belongs to the future.

An outsider would quickly recognize that Congregationalism survives because of the big city and suburban Churches which stood with heads high and refused to surrender their freedoms. What would continuing Congregationalism have done without support from Park Street Church and Old South in Boston, First of Evanston and Second of Hartford, State Street of Portland and Flatbush-Tompkins of Brooklyn, Park of Grand Rapids and Westminster of Spokane, First of Los Angeles and Plymouth of Minneapolis? No conference official could frighten or coerce such Churches; every effort to do so produced the opposite effect. Some of these Churches defected during the prolonged controversy, but help they rendered made all the difference between certain defeat and possible victory.

Of course, it took more than big city Churches to keep the NA going and growing. Just as important were the pastors and laymen who refused to be conformists, dull middle-of-the-roaders, organization men. There is a latent Martin Luther in most of us and the hope of resurgent Congregationalism often brought it to the fore. Here was a German Evangelical Protestant in

Pittsburgh or a Down-East Yankee in Machias, a cowboy in Cheyenne or a Congregationalist in Salt Lake City — freedom can mean much to such persons and Congregationalism is what they demand.

From the beginning the NA accepted and treasured ecclesiastical, theological and liturgical variety. Charter members included Christian modernists and fundamentalists, vigorous Calvinists and stalwart Arminians, neo-liberals and neo-evangelicals. They were high, low, and broad churchmen. There were Churches so liturgical that their deacons were robed; and low churchmen proud their minister wore a business suit and bright yellow tie in his pulpit. Continuing Congregationalists worship on Sunday in white steepled colonial meetinghouses, gingerbread chapels from grandfather's day, radically functional sanctuaries in contemporary style, plain frame churches with windows looking out on fields of daisies, and even in movie theatres when there is nowhere else to gather. All the historic and contemporary streams of Congregationalism flow together in the fellowship of the NA. Pilgrims and Puritans from New England, Evangelical Protestants and Welsh Independents from Pennsylvania, solid Midwesterners from farms and small towns, urban and urbane Christians of metropolitan America, businessmen and school teachers ,industrialists and independent merchants, radicals and revivalists, defenders of established values and seekers for Divine Light — all such find their honored place in the free fellowship of cooperating autonomous Churches.

More recently our fellowship has been sweetened and spiced from still new traditions — the broadminded and charitable Christian Universalists, the brotherhood of some liberty-minded Disciples of Christ, heroic Christian refugee Churches of Hong Kong, Taiwan and West Germany, the determined Protestant minority in Greece, and the newly-awakened Nigerian nationalists concerned for free Churches to match their free country.

Nor can one overlook the new confidence of NA assemblies generated by dedicated minorities coming from old Churches to gather new ones in homes, schools, lodge halls and dance studios. The God who paints each maple leaf different in autumn and designs separately every snowflake is the inspiration proper to a broad fellowship of completely sovereign Churches.

The architects of the NA have been realistic enough to insist upon checks and balances in its structure and functioning. The limited tenure of the Executive-Secretary, policy-making done by the Executive Committee drawn from the member-Churches, national Commissions providing an unpaid and unbureaucratic source of ideas and projects, voting and membership in NA by Churches only, equal representation for all Churches, and the power of a Referendum Council — these prosaic matters are demonstrable evidences of our concern for Christian liberty. Faith becomes fact when written into bylaws and codified into formal legal documents.

Many are encouraged by the resolute determination of the NA to stay out of controversial social and political action. At last we have a national church body which we can be proud to belong to without fearing that in tomorrow morning's newspaper we shall read that the Executive Committee or Annual Meeting has just sprinkled holy water on some legislative program sponsored by a political party we do not support. An important part of a citizen's life involves his active involvement in political action; no less important is his dedication to the purposes of religion. The NA has plenty to do without confusing Caesar and God. May an absolute wall of separation ever divide Church from State, especially in a nation under God.

Rev. Royal G. Davis, Chairman Publications Commission
National Assoc. of Congregational-Christian Churches

CONGREGATIONAL MISSIONS

The Missionary Society of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches is responsible for two very vital parts of the life and work of the Association.

1. Provides assistance to new Congregational Christian Churches.
2. Develops and maintains Mission work in this country and overseas.

One hundred cents of every Missionary dollar sent by member churches and individuals to the National Association goes directly to Missionary work. Administrative and promotion costs are covered by separate funds contributed to the Association for these purposes.

Gifts for new Churches help to provide pastoral leadership. Land and building gifts and loans are made possible through the Building and Loan Fund and the Ten Dollar Club. to the extent that such funds are available.

The following new churches receive assistance from the Missionary Society:

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA: First Congregational Church of the Northern Lights. Rev. Gerald Churchill was the first minister of this church which serves the community and American military personnel on "overseas" assignment. Four acres of choice land have been purchased. A church building awaits securing sufficient funds.

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA: First Congregational Church. The first unit of a campus building plan on 5 acres of ground is completed. Rev. Walter Vernon is the young and able minister.

DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA: Trinity Congregational Church. This group meets in the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Dr. Albert Miller is the pastor.

GRANADA HILLS, CALIFORNIA: Church of Our Saviour. A Strans steel first unit structure now houses this congregation. Rev. James Kepler is the minister.

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA: The Congregational Church. Members have recently purchased a very adequate church building. Rev. Vernon Booker is the minister.

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA: Pilgrim Congregational Church. Rev. Malcolm Gwaltney and a group from a former congregation organized this new church. Land was purchased and a new building has just been completed.

SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA: Pilgrim Congregational Church. Situated near the Vandenberg missile launch facility, this new church was organized by Rev. Joseph Loughran, a former Army Chaplain.

SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA: Pioneer Congregational Church. Meeting in a mortuary, this new church was organized late in 1963. Rev. Robert Greathouse is the minister.

DENVER ,COLORADO: Southwest Community Congregational Christian Church. A Civil Air Patrol chaplain, Rev. Arthur Roy Murray, Jr., is the founding minister of this new church, meeting in a grade school.

MUNDELEIN, ILLINOIS (Chicago area): Mayflower Congregational Church. This new church meets in a grade school building and is served by a part-time minister .

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS (Cherry Valley): Christ Congregational Church. Rev. LaVerne Miller leads this rural parish.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA: Fair Oaks Congregational Church. Rev. Edward O'Neal is the new pastor of this new church. The first unit of the building is completed.

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN (Detroit area): Pilgrim Congregational Church. The YMCA houses this new church. Funds are available to build on pine-covered acreage. Rev. Howard Bull is the pastor.

ORCHARD LAKE, MICHIGAN (Detroit area): Pine Hill Congregational Church. The first unit of a new church building is being constructed. Rev. Harry Clark, who also serves as National Pilgrim Fellowship Adviser, is the energetic minister.

LIVINGSTON, MONTANA: Congregational Church. Rev. Ellsworth Lyons was recently called to this new church near Yellowstone National Park. The congregation meets in a Seventh Day Adventist Church.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA: Pilgrim Congregational Church. A five-year-old church building has been purchased. A full time minister will soon be employed to replace the former one, who became ill.

NORTH ROYALTON, OHIO: Faith Community Church. This church began in a garage and now rents a school house. Rev. Ralph Hirtle is the pastor.

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA: South Hills Congregational Church. A three-story brick "House Church" is the new home of this growing church. A full time pastor will be called soon.

HOUSTON, TEXAS: All Souls Congregational Christian Church. The congregation meets in a rented church church building and is led by Rev. Eugene Agnew. Houston is predicted to become the largest American City of the 21st century.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON: Seattle Congregational Church. Services are held in a Seventh Day Adventist Church. Rev. Rev. Robert Pruitt has been called as the part-time minister.

Many American cities want and need Congregational Churches. Your gifts will help make them possible. Join the "$10 Club" and help three new churches each year with a gift of $10 toward a new church building. Write the Milwaukee office for details.

Some established churches are also receiving assistance for pastoral leadership.

TOLEDO, OHIO: Mayfair Congregational Church.

DAYTON, WYOMING: Dayton Congregational Church.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE: 16 historic Congregational Churches in a depressed economic area.

The following projects receive assistance from the Missionary Society:

HONGKONG: Berea Bible Institute and Christian Assembly. Refugee and educational work. Rev. Benjamin Chen.

HONGKONG: God's Church. Refugee chapels and Sunday Schools. Rev. Kwok Hang Shing.

HONGKONG: Aid to families in Communist China. Mark Yien.

FORMOSA: Churches and Children's Home for Free China refugees. Rev. Jordan Wen.

SOUTH INDIA: Travancore Council. Aid to Congregational churches and ministers and scholarships for students .Also agricultural projects. Mr. A. N. Bensam, Jobfred Stevens, Rev. A. Zachariah.

GREEK MISSION: Aid for evangelical churches and youth camp. Student scholarships and relief funds. Rev. Phil Zikas.

THESSOLANIKA, GREECE: Anatolia College. English professor and minister, Mr. Slather.

HAWAII, MAUI: Mr. and Mrs. John Tremaine - Christian workers.

GERMANY: Hamburg Refugee Center. Sunday School teachers for Estonian-Latvian refugees.

DEMOREST, GEORGIA: Piedmont College. Scholarships for needy students at this unique mountain college.

The next group of projects will receive aid from gifts to the Missionary Society beyond the $100,000 1964 budget.

INDIA: Ahmednagar College. 100 village self-help agricultural and community development project. World Neighbors. Prof. S. K. Hulbe and Principal Thomas Barnabas.

BRAZIL: Recife: Dr. Frank Laubach Literacy Center to help train literacy workers and prepare materials.

ENGLAND, London: Pilgrim Fathers Memorial Church. Pastoral leadership for historic oldest Congregational Church.

ARIZONA, Tempe: Cook Indian Training School for Christian leaders of 18 tribes.

This last group of projects does not receive budgeted funds of the Missionary Society but are approved for support by local churches and individuals.

HONGKONG Project Concern: James Turpin, M. D. Floating clinics in typhoon shelters and clinic in Kowloon, the Walled City. Aid to refugees.

JORDAN, Aman: Rural Resources development of livestock and vine crops. Near East Foundation project.

INDIA, Deccan: Ahmednagar College. Theological and Christian Education Seminars for students attending the college. Correspondence courses are also available for native church leaders.

ITALY: Casa Materna, Naples. E. Santi, M. D. is in charge of this fine orphanage.

GERMANY: Eckenforde Orphanage. Orphanage for 200 children ,some from North Africa. Miss Majken Broby is the head nurse and director.

Further details about any of these projects may be received by sending to the Milwaukee office for the Rainbow Sheets.

Rev. Robert H. Scanland
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CONGREGATIONALISM AROUND THE WORLD

A remarkable and heartening thing has been taking place in and through the National Association; our hearts are moving toward the concept of global fellowship, and the Spirit of God is giving flesh to the concept by bringing faraway people and groups of Churches into fellowship with us. Those who attended the Annual Meeting at Hartford will remember the mood of mission that grew in the gathering as men who had gone to far parts of the earth returned with the conviction that something new and immensely significant was stirring in the winds of time.

Perhaps as dramatic an example as may be given is that of the Congregational Christian Churches of Nigeria, a newly-formed denomination in Eastern Nigeria which came seeking fellowship with us in a manner so strange that it would be less than honest to call it mere coincidence. It is providential that at the very time we were excluded; temporarily at least, from the International Congregational Council, Churches of many nations began to turn to us. We have long held relations with the South India Congregationalists, but now, while this list is incomplete, we have strong and viable relationships with Churches in Greece, Formosa, Hong Kong, Hawaii, Samoa, British Guiana, Germany, and Africa. There is also opportunity in Argentina.

In order to deal with these international relationships, a World Christian Relations Committee was appointed in Minneapolis and made its first report at Hartford. The basic function and responsibility of this Committee is "to explore those areas in which free churches should rightly share in fellowship and work in our own country and around the world."

A wise and flexible policy is necessary for many problems face us as we attempt to march to "the brave music of mission." To begin with, some of these new Churches have very hazy notions of what Congre-

gationalism is, an ignorance we can easily forgive in view of the darkness of mind which has prevailed on this subject in the United States for the past twenty years: we have a teaching mininstry at this point. Again, we must be sure that those who come to us are seeking a free relation of affection, and not merely spiritually empty financial support. Arrangements ought to be made, not only for our official visits to them, but for their reciprocal visits to us. Fellowship must be a two-way street. We must offer these younger Churches both freedom and the dignity of responsibility. We must avoid paternalism, which is a word and a mood hardly less kind than colonialism. The new nations, successfully rebelling against colonialism, are fertile soils for the seed of the free way of Church life.

We are more fortunate than the established denominations, already committed to a structured form of Christianity; we are free to move as the Spirit would have us move. With boldness and prayer let us go about our task of spreading our two great ideas of freedom and of love as the sufficient bond between brethren everywhere. Under the Headship of Christ let us labor to create among men an ecumenicity of Spirit which shall leap seas and continents and transcend race and creed.

Dr. Harry Butman, Chairman
World Christian Relations Committee

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